TORSION FUNCTORS OF LOCAL COHOMOLOGY MODULES

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ABSTRACT. Through a study of torsion functors of local cohomology modules we improve some non-finiteness results on the top non-zero local cohomology modules with respect to an ideal.

1. Introduction

Let R be a commutative Noetherian ring with non-zero identity. We use symbols \mathfrak{a} , M, and X as an ideal of R, a finite (i.e. finitely generated) R-module, and an arbitrary R-module which is not necessarily finite. The ith local cohomology module of X with respect to \mathfrak{a} is denoted by $H^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$.

For all $i \geq 0$, it is well known that $H^i_{\mathfrak{m}}(M)$ is Artinian for any maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} of R. In particular, $\operatorname{Hom}_R(R/\mathfrak{m}, H^i_{\mathfrak{m}}(M))$ is finite. Grothendieck asked, in [6], whether a similar statement is valid if \mathfrak{m} is replaced by an arbitrary ideal of R. Hartshorne gave a counterexample in [8] and raised the question whether $\operatorname{Ext}_R^i(R/\mathfrak{a}, H^j_{\mathfrak{a}}(M))$ is finite for all i and j, and proved this is the case when R is a complete regular local ring and $\operatorname{dim}(R/\mathfrak{a}) = 1$. This result was later extended to more general rings by Delfino and Marley ([4, Theorem 1]).

For an R-module X, Melkersson [11, Theorem 2.1] proved that $\operatorname{Ext}_R^i(R/\mathfrak{a},X)$ is finite for all i if and only if $\operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a},X)$ is finite for all i. Summarizing the above results, we see that for any ideal \mathfrak{a} of R with $\dim(R/\mathfrak{a}) \leq 1$, $\operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M))$ is finite for all i and j. This result inspired us to study $\operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(X))$ in general for an arbitrary R-module X. Note that there are some attempts to study $\operatorname{Tor}_0^R(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(X))$ in [2] and $\operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(M))$ in [10].

In Section 2, we present some technical results (Lemma 2.1 and Theorem 2.2) which show that, in certain situation, the torsion module $\operatorname{Tor}_i^R(R/\mathfrak{a}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^j(X))$ is in a Serre subcategory of the category of R-modules. Recall that $\mathcal S$ is a Serre subcategory of the category of R-modules if for any exact sequence

$$(1.1) 0 \longrightarrow X' \longrightarrow X \longrightarrow X'' \longrightarrow 0$$

the module X is in S if and only if X' and X'' are in S. Always, S stands for a Serre subcategory of the category of R-modules.

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Section 3 consists of applications. In Corollary 3.3, we show that, for certain integer i, $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ may not be finite, coatomic, or minimax. Recall that, an R-module X is said to be coatomic (resp. minimax) if any submodule of X is contained in a maximal submodule of X (resp. if there is a finite submodule X' of X such that X/X' is Artinian). Finally, we show that, for a positive integer n, the statement " $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is coatomic for all $i \geq n$ " is equivalent to each of the statements " $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is finite for all $i \geq n$ " and " $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) = 0$ for all $i \geq n$ "; also the statement " $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is minimax for all $i \geq n$ " is equivalent to the statement " $\mathrm{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is Artinian for all $i \geq n$ " (Corollaries 3.4 and 3.5).

2. Main result

In this section, c denotes the arithmetic rank of the ideal \mathfrak{a} , so that there exist elements x_1, \dots, x_c of R such that $\sqrt{\mathfrak{a}} = (x_1, \dots, x_c)$, also $C(X)^{\bullet}$ denotes the Čech complex of X with respect to x_1, \dots, x_c . It is well known that the ith cohomology module of $C(X)^{\bullet}$ is isomorphic to the ith local cohomology module $H^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ (see [3, Theorem 5.1.19]).

Our method is based on the following lemma. We adopt the notation as in [12].

Lemma 2.1. Assume that X and N are R-modules such that N is \mathfrak{a} -torsion. Then there is a first quadrant spectral sequence

(2.1)
$$E_{p,q}^2 := \operatorname{Tor}_p^R(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{c-q}(X)) \Longrightarrow_p \operatorname{Tor}_{p+q-c}^R(N, X).$$

Proof. Let F_{\bullet} be a free resolution of N and consider the first quadrant bicomplex $\mathcal{T} = \{C(F_p \otimes_R X)^{c-q}\}$. We denote the total complex of \mathcal{T} by $\text{Tot}(\mathcal{T})$. The first filtration has E^2 term the iterated homology $H'_pH''_{p,q}(\mathcal{T})$. By [3, Theorem 5.1.19], we have

$$H_{p,q}''(\mathcal{T}) = H^{c-q}(C(F_p \otimes_R X)^{\bullet}) = H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{c-q}(F_p \otimes_R X) = F_p \otimes_R H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{c-q}(X).$$

Hence

$${}^{I}E_{p,q}^{2} = H_{p}(F_{\bullet} \otimes_{R} \mathcal{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{c-q}(X)) = \operatorname{Tor}_{p}^{R}(N, H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{c-q}(X)).$$

On the other hand, the second filtration has E^2 term the iterated homology $H_p''H_{q,p}'(\mathcal{T})$. We have

$$H'_{q,p}(\mathcal{T}) = H_q(C(R)^{c-p} \otimes_R F_{\bullet} \otimes_R X) = C(R)^{c-p} \otimes_R H_q(F_{\bullet} \otimes_R X) = C(\operatorname{Tor}_q^R(N,X))^{c-p}.$$

Thus, again by [3, Theorem 5.1.19],

$${}^{II}E^2_{p,q}=H^{c-p}(C(\operatorname{Tor}{}^R_q(N,X))^{ullet})=H^{c-p}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\operatorname{Tor}{}^R_q(N,X)).$$

Since $\operatorname{Tor}_{q}^{R}(N,X)$ is \mathfrak{a} -torsion for all q,

$${}^{II}E_{p,q}^2 \cong \left\{ \begin{array}{ccc} \operatorname{Tor}_q^R(N,X) & & \text{if} & p=c, \\ 0 & & \text{if} & p \neq c. \end{array} \right.$$

Therefore this spectral sequence collapses at the cth column and so

$$H_{p+q}(\operatorname{Tot}(\mathcal{T})) = {}^{II}E_{c,p+q-c}^2 = \operatorname{Tor}_{p+q-c}^R(N,X)$$

which yields the assertion.

It is our main object to find out when a torsion functor of a local cohomology module is in a Serre subcategory S. Note that the following subcategories are examples of Serre subcategories of the category of R-modules: finite R-modules; Artinian R-modules; coatomic R-modules ([15]); minimax R-modules ([14]); and trivially the zero R-module. In the following theorem, we find some sufficient conditions for this purpose.

Theorem 2.2. Suppose that X and N are R-modules such that N is \mathfrak{a} -torsion. Assume also that s,t are non-negative integers such that

- (i) $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t}^{R}(N,X)$ is in S,
- (ii) $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i-1}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(X))$ is in \mathcal{S} for all $i, 0 \leq i \leq t-1$, and
- (iii) $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i+1}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(X))$ is in \mathcal{S} for all $i, t+1 \leq i \leq c$.

Then $\operatorname{Tor}_{s}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{t}(X))$ is in S.

Proof. We may assume that $t \leq c$. Set u = c - t, n = s + u, and consider the spectral sequence (2.1). For all $r \geq 2$, let $Z_{s,u}^r = \ker(E_{s,u}^r \longrightarrow E_{s-r,u+r-1}^r)$ and $B_{s,u}^r = \operatorname{Im}(E_{s+r,u-r+1}^r \longrightarrow E_{s,u}^r)$. So that we have the exact sequences:

$$0 \longrightarrow Z^r_{s,u} \longrightarrow E^r_{s,u} \longrightarrow E^r_{s,u}/Z^r_{s,u} \longrightarrow 0$$

and

$$0 \longrightarrow B_{s,u}^r \longrightarrow Z_{s,u}^r \longrightarrow E_{s,u}^{r+1} \longrightarrow 0.$$

Note that $E^2_{s-r,u+r-1}$ and $E^2_{s+r,u-r+1}$ are in \mathcal{S} by assumptions (ii) and (iii), so that their subquotients $E^r_{s-r,u+r-1}$ and $E^r_{s+r,u-r+1}$, respectively, are also in \mathcal{S} . Thus $E^r_{s,u}/Z^r_{s,u}$ and $E^r_{s,u}$ are in \mathcal{S} . It follows by the above exact sequences that if $E^{r+1}_{s,u}$ is in \mathcal{S} , then $E^r_{s,u}$ is in \mathcal{S} .

As we have $E^r_{s+r,u-r+1} = 0 = E^r_{s-r,u+r-1}$ for all $r \ge s+u+2$, we obtain $E^{\infty}_{s,u} = E^{s+u+2}_{s,u}$. To complete the proof, it is enough to show that $E^{\infty}_{s,u}$ is in \mathcal{S} .

There exists a finite filtration

$$0 = \phi^{-1} H_n \subseteq \phi^0 H_n \subseteq \dots \subseteq \phi^{n-1} H_n \subseteq \phi^n H_n = \operatorname{Tor}_{s-t}^R(N, X)$$

such that $E_{r,n-r}^{\infty} = \phi^r H_n/\phi^{r-1} H_n$ for all $r, 0 \leq r \leq n$. Since $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t}^R(N,X)$ is in $\mathcal{S}, \phi^s H_n$ is also in \mathcal{S} . Thus $E_{s,u}^{\infty} = \phi^s H_n/\phi^{s-1} H_n$ is in \mathcal{S} as we desired.

3. Applications

One can use Theorem 2.2 to study some sufficient conditions for finiteness of torsion functors of local cohomology modules. This is the subject of [10, Theorem 4.1] which shows that, for given integers s,t and given ideals $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \mathfrak{b}$, $\operatorname{Tor}_s^R(R/\mathfrak{b}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^t(M))$ is finite whenever M is a finite R-module with $\dim_R(M) < \infty$, $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i-1}^R(R/\mathfrak{b}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M))$ is finite for all i < t, and $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i+1}^R(R/\mathfrak{b}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^i(M))$ is finite for all i > t. In the following, we prove this theorem without assuming that M is finite and with no restrictions on dimension of M.

Corollary 3.1. (cf. [10, Theorem 4.1]) Suppose that X and N are R-modules such that N is \mathfrak{a} -torsion. Assume also that s,t are non-negative integers such that

(i)
$$\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t}^{R}(N,X)$$
 is finite,

- (ii) $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i-1}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(X))$ is finite for all $i, 0 \leq i \leq t-1$, and
- (iii) $\operatorname{Tor}_{s-t+i+1}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{i}(X))$ is finite for all $i, t+1 \leq i \leq c$.

Then $\operatorname{Tor}_{s}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{q}}^{t}(X))$ is finite.

Proof. In Theorem 2.2, take S to be the subcategory of finite R-modules. The result follows.

Let n be a positive integer and $\operatorname{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is in \mathcal{S} for all i > n. In [2, Theorem 3.1], it is shown that $\operatorname{H}^n_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/\mathfrak{a}\operatorname{H}^n_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is in \mathcal{S} whenever X is a weakly Laskerian R-module (i.e. the set of associated primes of any quotient module of X is finite) and X has finite Krull dimension. In the first part of the following result, we generalize the statement by removing all conditions on X.

Corollary 3.2. Let X be an R-module and let S be a Serre subcategory of the category of R-modules such that, for a given integer n, $\operatorname{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is in S for all i > n. Assume that N is an \mathfrak{a} -torsion finite R-module and that \mathfrak{b} is an ideal of R with $\mathfrak{a} \subseteq \sqrt{\mathfrak{b}}$. Then the following statements hold true.

- (i) If n > 0, then $N \otimes_R H^n_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)$ is in S. In particular, $H^n_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)/\mathfrak{b}H^n_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)$ is in S.
- (ii) If n > 1, then $\operatorname{Tor}_{1}^{R}(N, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n}(X))$ is in S. In particular, $\operatorname{Tor}_{1}^{R}(R/\mathfrak{b}, \operatorname{H}_{\mathfrak{a}}^{n}(X))$ is in S.

Proof. Put t = n in Theorem 2.2. For the first part take s = 0; and, for the second part, take s = 1.

In the course of the remaining parts of the paper by $\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)$ (\mathcal{S} -cohomological dimension of X with respect to \mathfrak{a}) we mean the largest integer i in which $\operatorname{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is not in \mathcal{S} (see [2, Definition 3.4] or [1, Definition 3.5]). If $\mathcal{S} = 0$, then $\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X) = \operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)$ as in [7]. When \mathcal{S} is the category of Artinian R-modules, we write $\operatorname{q}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) := \operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)$. Note that $\operatorname{q}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) = \operatorname{q}(\mathfrak{a},X)$ if R is local as in [5, Definition 3.1].

As an application of Corollary 3.2, we bring the following result which is essentially about non-finiteness of $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}_{\mathfrak{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ where X is an arbitrary R-module. In [9, Theorem 3.2], it is shown that $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is not coatomic whenever $0 < \mathrm{cd}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{a},X) = \mathrm{cd}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{a},R/\mathrm{Ann}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X))$. In the second part of the following result, the equality condition is removed.

Corollary 3.3. For an arbitrary R-module X, the following statements hold true.

- (i) If $\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X) > 0$, then $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T$ is not finite for any submodule T of $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ with $T \in \mathcal{S}$. In particular, $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is not finite.
- (ii) If $\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X) > 0$, then $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T$ is not coatomic for any proper submodule T of $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$. In particular, $\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is not coatomic.
- (iii) If $q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) > 0$, then $H^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/T$ is not minimax for any Artinian submodule T of $H^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)$. In particular, $H^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)$ is not minimax.
- *Proof.* (i) Assume contrarily that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)/T$ is finite. Then there exists an integer j such that $\mathfrak{a}^{j}(H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)/T) = 0$; that is $\mathfrak{a}^{j}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X) \subseteq T$. On the other hand, by Corollary 3.2, $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)/\mathfrak{a}^{j}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)$ is in \mathcal{S} and so its quotient $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)/T$ is in \mathcal{S} . Therefore $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)}(X)$ is in \mathcal{S} which contradicts the definition of $\operatorname{cd}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathfrak{a},X)$.

(ii) Assume that $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T$ is coatomic. There exists a maximal submodule T'/T of $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T$ so that there is an exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow T'/T \longrightarrow \operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}}_{\mathfrak{a}}(\mathfrak{a},X)(X)/T \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{m} \longrightarrow 0$$

for some maximal ideal \mathfrak{m} of R, which results the exact sequence

$$T'/\mathfrak{a}T' + T \longrightarrow \operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/\mathfrak{a}\operatorname{H}^{\operatorname{cd}(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) + T \longrightarrow R/\mathfrak{m} \longrightarrow 0$$

if one applies the functor $R/\mathfrak{a}\otimes_R$ —. It can be seen either directly or deduced from Corollary 3.2 that $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/\mathfrak{a}\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)=0$. Therefore its homomorphic image $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/\mathfrak{a}\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)+T$ is zero. This contradiction shows that $\mathrm{H}^{\mathrm{cd}\,(\mathfrak{a},X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T$ is not coatomic.

(iii) Assume, in contrary, that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/T$ is a minimax module; so that there exists an exact sequence

$$(3.1) 0 \longrightarrow T'/T \longrightarrow H_{\sigma}^{q_{\sigma}(X)}(X)/T \longrightarrow H_{\sigma}^{q_{\sigma}(X)}(X)/T' \longrightarrow 0$$

such that T'/T is finite and $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/T'$ is Artinian. There is an integer j such that $\mathfrak{a}^{j}(T'/T)=0$. As, by Corollary 3.2, $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/\mathfrak{a}^{j}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)$ is Artinian its quotient $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/\mathfrak{a}^{j}H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)+T$ is also Artinian. Applying the functor $R/\mathfrak{a}^{j}\otimes_{R}-$ to the exact sequence (3.1) yields the exact sequence

$$\operatorname{Tor}\nolimits^{R}_{1}(R/\mathfrak{a}^{j},\operatorname{H}\nolimits^{\operatorname{q}\nolimits_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/T')\longrightarrow T'/T\longrightarrow \operatorname{H}\nolimits^{\operatorname{q}\nolimits_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)/\mathfrak{a}^{j}\operatorname{H}\nolimits^{\operatorname{q}\nolimits_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)+T$$

from which we obtain that T'/T is Artinian. Now, (3.1) implies that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)/T$ is Artinian which contradicts with the fact that $H_{\mathfrak{a}}^{q_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)}(X)$ is not Artinian.

In [13, Proposition 3.1], it is proved that, for a positive integer n, $\operatorname{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X) = 0$ for all $i \geq n$ whenever X and all modules $\operatorname{H}^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$, for all $i \geq n$, are finite and the ground ring R is local. In the following, among other things, we generalize this result for a general ring R and an arbitrary R-module X.

Corollary 3.4. Let X be an arbitrary R-module and let n be a positive integer. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) $H^i_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)$ is coatomic for all $i \geq n$.
- (ii) $H_{\mathfrak{g}}^{i}(X)$ is finite for all $i \geq n$.
- (iii) $H_{\mathfrak{g}}^{i}(X) = 0$ for all $i \geq n$.

Proof. (i) \Leftrightarrow (iii). This is clear from Corollary 3.3(ii).

(ii)
$$\Leftrightarrow$$
 (iii). It follows from Corollary 3.3(i).

In consistence of Corollary 3.4, one can state the following result about Artinian-ness of local cohomology modules from a point upward.

Corollary 3.5. Let X be an arbitrary R-module and let n be a positive integer. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) $H^i_{\mathfrak{a}}(X)$ is minimax for all $i \geq n$.
- (ii) $H^i_{\mathfrak{g}}(X)$ is Artinian for all $i \geq n$.

Proof. This follows from Corollary 3.3(iii).

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